COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20004

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council

FROM:

Phil Mendelson, Chairman

DATE:

September 30, 2021

RE:

Request to Place Measure on the Agenda for October 5, 2021 Legislative Meeting

Please place the following measures on the agenda for the October 5, 2021 Legislative Meeting:

- Foreclosure Moratorium Extension and Scheduled Eviction Assistance Emergency **Declaration Resolution of 2021**
- Foreclosure Moratorium Extension and Scheduled Eviction Assistance Emergency Amendment Act of 2021
- Foreclosure Moratorium Extension and Scheduled Eviction Assistance Temporary Amendment Act of 2021

The Council approved the Public Emergency Extension and Eviction and Utility Moratorium Phasing Emergency Amendment Act of 2021, effective July 24, 2021 (D.C. Act 24-125; 68 DCR 7342), on July 13, 2021. The act phases out the foreclosure moratorium on November 5, 2020. To give the District more time to implement the Homeowner Assistance Fund plan, which will be funded via \$50 million appropriated by Congress through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, it is necessary to extend the foreclosure moratorium until December 31, 2021.

D.C. Act 24-125 also provides for a notice requirement of 21 or 30 days for evictions authorized prior to March 11, 2020 and rescheduled. Since then, community-based organizations have identified two issues that this proposed emergency seeks to address. First, the bill enhances the notice requirement such that housing providers must include information on the amount owed by the tenant, including a breakdown of how much money is owed from prior to March 11, 2020, and numbers for the Office of Tenant Advocate and the Landlord Tenant Legal Assistance Network to assist with applying for Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) or STAY DC if the eviction is scheduled to occur on or after November 16, 2021. Second, the bill requires housing providers to check with the Department of Human Services whether the tenant has a pending ERAP or STAY DC application, and where the tenant does have a pending application, requires the housing provider to reschedule the eviction no earlier than three weeks from the current scheduled eviction date to allow applications to be processed and payments to be made if the application is approved.

Copies of the measures are attached. Please call me or Blaine Stum if you have any questions at (202) 724-8092.

cc:

All Councilmembers Council Officers